



Janet Napolitano
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Stephen A. Owens
Director

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION by the

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) on an application for an Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) Permit to discharge pollutants to Waters of the United States. ADEQ is issuing this notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and in accordance with Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R18-9-A907.

The Director proposes to issue an AZPDES permit to discharge to the following applicant, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions:

Public Notice No. 16-08AZ

Publication Date: October 12, 2007

AZPDES Permit No. AZ0024775
Mountain Pass Utility Company,
Saddlebrooke Ranch Water Reclamation Plant
9532 East Riggs Road
Sun Lakes, Arizona 85248

The applicant applied for a renewed AZPDES permit for the discharge of up to 0.249 million gallons per day (mgd) of effluent from a water reclamation plant (WRP) that will serve the Saddlebrooke Ranch development in Pinal County, Arizona. Effluent will be directed primarily to reuse for irrigation, but may also be discharged to an unnamed wash tributary to Big Wash in the Santa Cruz River Basin. The point of discharge will be in T10S, R4W, Section 14E, approximately 500 feet east of confluence with Big Wash and 1.3 miles north of Oracle Junction, Arizona. Wastewater will be domestic in nature, with no significant industrial users planned for connection during the proposed five-year permit term. The plant will apply secondary treatment with nitrification, denitrification, clarification, tertiary filtration, and UV disinfection. Waste activated sludge will be partially treated at the subject facility, then transported by truck for further treatment at the Saddlebrooke Utility Company WWTP (a separate facility). The dewatered sludge will then be disposed of at an approved landfill.

Pursuant to A.A.C. 18-11 Article 1, Appendix B, effluent limitations in the permit are based on the designated uses of aquatic and wildlife (effluent-dependent water) and partial body contact. Effluent will be monitored for biological oxygen demand (BOD); total suspended solids (TSS); *E. Coli*; total residual chlorine (TRC) if chlorine is used; ammonia; pH; temperature; metals; oil and grease; cyanide; sulfides; and various organic compounds including pesticides. Acute or chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing will be required annually to assist in determining whether synergistic effects of monitored or non-monitored parameters are occurring.

With 24 hour notice, the draft permit and related documentation is available for public review Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the ADEQ Phoenix office. To review the file, contact the Records Management Center, 24 hours in advance at (602) 771- 4380. A copy of the pertinent documents may also be obtained by calling or writing ADEQ as follows.

Persons may submit comments or request a public hearing on the proposed action, in writing, to:

Lavinia A. Wright
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
1110 W. Washington, 5415A-1
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: 602-771-4585

All written comments received by ADEQ by the close of business on the date 30 days after publication of this notice will be considered in the final permit decision. Requests for a hearing must be in writing and must state the issues proposed to be raised in a hearing. If there is a significant degree of public interest, the Director will hold a hearing in accordance with A.A.C. R18-9-908(B). Additional notice of such hearing would be published at least 30 days prior to the hearing date.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons you know would be interested in this matter.

Northern Regional Office
1801 W. Route 66 • Suite 117 • Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 779-0313

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400 West Congress Street • Suite 433 • Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 628-6733